

Appln No. 09/483,315

Amdt date July 29, 2004

Reply to Office action of January 29, 2004

REMARKS/ARGUMENTS

**Summary of Office action.**

In the Office action, the Examiner made the following rejections:

- Claims 76-95 were rejected under 35 U.S.C. § 112 as failing to comply with the written description requirement;
- Claims 1, 4, 9-14, 23, 26 and 39 were rejected under 35 U.S.C. § 102(e) as being anticipated by U.S. Patent 6,552,352 to Strandwitz et al. (the Strandwitz et al. patent); and
- Claims 76-95 were rejected under 35 U.S.C. § 103(a) as being obvious in light of the Strandwitz et al. patent in view of U.S. Patent 6,044,088 to Rahman et al.

**Cancellation of claims 1, 4, 9-14, 23, 26 and 39.**

Claims 1, 4, 9-14, 23, 26 and 39 have been cancelled in order to focus on the rejection of claims 76-95 under 35 U.S.C. § 103(a) as being obvious in light of the Strandwitz et al. patent in view of U.S. Patent 6,044,088 to Rahman et al.

**Rejection of claims 76-95 under 35 U.S.C. § 112.**

The rejection under 35 U.S.C. § 112 was on the basis that the specification does not describe in a way that would reasonably convey to one skilled in the relevant art the limitation of a codec connected to the video input and video output that is configured to convert real-time video information encoded in the first video format to a third video format and to

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convert real-time video information encoded in the third video format into the second video format. However, applicants submit that the claims as amended are generally supported by the specification and in particular by the following excerpts from pages 10 and 11 of the amended specification:

More specifically, the codec accepts analog and digital ... video (i.e. NTSC or VGA), compresses this input, and multiplexes the compressed data with an external data stream. The preferred industry standards are ITU H.263 based video ... The audio video codec 200 in the portable access unit 100-100a can establish a link with a similar audio/video codec 200 associated with another portable access unit 100-100a or a remote media device 104, 125, 180 or 182 through the general purpose node.

When receiving data over the wireless connection through the general purpose node, the codec 200 in the portable access unit 100a formats the data routed through the general purpose node by decompressing or demultiplexing the data and outputting the received data from the device for which the link was established to the user on the portable access unit.

The interface between the codec 200 and communication device 202 as well as between the communication devices 202 of the general purpose node 150-150a and portable access unit 100-100a operate two-way with a high bandwidth suitable for

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transmitting video. Of this bandwidth, the audio portion utilizes up to 64 kbps and the data from the sensor 104 utilizes the required amount for the type of sensor 104, with the remainder allocated to compressed video. The quality of the video at these data rates in excess of 128 kbps is at least equivalent to video teleconferencing quality video.

The audio/video codec 200 portion of the portable access unit 100-100a may further comprise video input and output ports, audio input and output ports, data input and output ports. The above-mentioned multimedia processor chip of the codec can format data retrieved through the general purpose node. The codec can be used for packaging signals for data compression and decompression for transmission ... The audio/video codec 200 further comprises a field programmable gate array, electrically programmable read-only memory and random access memory for processing and packaging or formatting signals for compression and decompression.

From the above description, one of ordinary skill in the art would appreciate that the codec has a video input port that "accepts analog and digital ... video". One of ordinary skill in the art would also appreciate that the codec encodes the real-time video input (e.g., from NTSC or VGA to ITU H.263). The passage also teaches that the "codec 200 ... may further comprise video ... output ports" and that the "codec can format data retrieved through the general purpose node." In addition,

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the summary of the invention clearly states that "The system backbone provides 2-way video, 2-way audio and a multi-purpose data channel between the PAU and general purpose node." (see amended specification pg. 3).

**Rejection of claims 76-95 under 35 U.S.C. § 103(a)**

Claims 76-95 were rejected under 35 U.S.C. § 103(a) as being obvious in light of the Strandwitz et al. patent in view of the Rahman et al patent. Applicants respectfully disagree with the rejection on the basis that neither the Strandwitz et al. patent nor the Rahman et al. patent individually or in combination teach the limitations of claim 76. Neither reference teaches a mobile access unit including a video input configured to receive real-time video information and a video output configured to provide real-time video information. As a result, neither reference teaches a codec connected to the video input and video output that is configured to encode real-time video information received from the video input, decode encoded real-time video information and provide the decoded real-time video information to the video output. Nor do the references teach the additional combination of these elements with a transceiver that includes a transmitter connected to the codec that is configured to transmit a data stream generated by the codec over an upstream wireless communication link and a receiver connected to the codec that is configured to receive a data stream transmitted over a downstream wireless communication link.

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In addition, the statement of the rejection fails to point out any specific teaching within the prior art that would suggest the combination of the above references to one of ordinary skill in the art. Indeed applicants question what relevance one of ordinary skill in the art would place on the Rahman et al. patent, which relates to an optical terminator and switch. Applicants fail to see how any teaching relating to an optical terminator and switch could be viewed by one of ordinary skill as relevant to the design of a device of the general nature of the device claimed in claims 76-95.

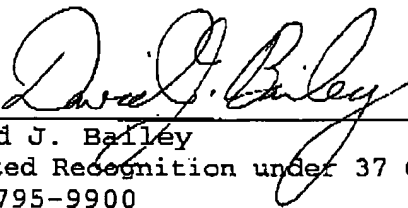
#### Conclusion

In light of the above comments, Applicants respectfully request that the rejections under 35 U.S.C. § 112 and 25 U.S.C. § 103(a) be withdrawn and the prompt issuance of a notice of allowance. If Applicants' counsel can be of assistance, please do not hesitate to contact them at the number listed below.

Respectfully submitted,

CHRISTIE, PARKER & HALE, LLP

By

  
David J. Bailey  
Limited Recognition under 37 CFR § 10.9(b)  
626/795-9900

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Expires: October 17, 2004



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